



EXPEDITED PROCEDURE - EXAMINING GROUP 2818

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PATENT

49/05 Response
PATENT 10/2001
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Huy Thanh Vo Examiner: Son Mai
Serial No.: 09/808,750 Group Art Unit: 2818
Filed: March 15, 2001 Docket: 303.723US1
Title: DEVICE AND METHOD TO REDUCE WORDLINE RC TIME CONSTANT
IN SEMICONDUCTOR MEMORY DEVICES

AMENDMENT & RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Box AF
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

IN THE DRAWINGS

Corrected drawings are supplied herewith.

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully reviewed and considered the Office Action mailed on October 18, 2002, and the references cited therewith.

No claims are amended or cancelled. Claims 1-54 remain pending in this application.

§102 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 1-54 were rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by Tanoi (U.S. Patent No. 5,708,621).

The rejection states that, "Tanoi discloses . . . a strapping line (118 in fig. 16) of lower resistance than the wordlines coupled to a single wordline, wherein the strapping line bypasses a portion of the single wordline."

The Examiner's response to Applicant's arguments from the previous Amendment and Response states that, "On the contrary, as pointed out in the above rejections, Tanoi shows at least in one embodiment in figures 16-18, two channels (interconnecting plugs 122, 126) connecting a strapping line 118 to two ends of a portion of a single wordline." The Examiner's response to Applicant's arguments further states that, "Tanoi shows in Figure 4, the strapping